



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Man Sentenced to Seven Years in Prison For Biting and Attempting to Rape His Then-Girlfriend

WASHINGTON – Michael A. Ellison, 44, was sentenced today to a seven-year prison term for biting and attempting to rape his then-girlfriend, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Ellison, formerly of the 200 block of Hamilton Street NW, pleaded guilty in September to charges of malicious disfigurement and attempted first degree sexual abuse. He was sentenced today by the Honorable Gerald I. Fisher in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Once released from prison, Ellison will be on supervised release for three years, and he will be required to register as a sex offender for 10 years.

According to the government's evidence, as proffered at the earlier plea hearing, on the night of June 15 - 16, 2010, Ellison was planning to spend the night at the victim's apartment. He indicated that he wanted to engage in sexual activity with her. She told him "no." Ellis then became angry and bit the victim on her upper left biceps area and on her right forearm in an attempt to get her to engage in sexual activity with him. In doing so, he bit off pieces of flesh.

A short while later, in another attempt to get the victim to engage in sex with him, Ellison bit her again. This time, he bit her three or four times on her cheeks, puncturing her skin and leaving marks on both sides of her face. She has suffered scarring from Ellison's bites.

The victim was able to contact the police, and Ellison was arrested while he was still inside her apartment. After his arrest, he gave a statement to the police in which he admitted that he had "lost it," bit the victim and didn't really remember what he'd done.

In announcing the sentencing, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Detectives William Weeks and Jose Solloso of the Sexual Assault Unit; Mobile Crime Laboratory Technicians Dwayne Mitchell and Natasha Pettus, and MPD Fourth District Officers N.J. Dengler and B. Cover. He also praised the work of paralegal Joyce Arthur; legal

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assistants Ashley Patterson and Tanisha “Nikki” Nelson, and victim advocate Iris Vega. Finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter V. Taylor, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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